

For: State and County Offices

Asphalt Flooring in FSFL Structures

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

1-FSFL requires FSFL structures for storing all commodities authorized under the CCC Charter Act to have concrete flooring. Corn, oats, wheat, barley, and grain sorghum are CCC Charter Act commodities that are eligible for FSFL's if harvested as either whole grain or other than whole grain, including silage. Unless a DAFP waiver authorized for a specific FSFL is granted, only concrete flooring may be used in FSFL structures storing corn, oats, wheat, barley, and grain sorghum harvested as whole grain or other than whole grain.

1-FSFL authorized asphalt flooring, if suitable for the region where the facility is located, for storing hay and renewable biomass commodities. Specific construction specifications were required to ensure that the asphalt flooring would last for the mandatory 15 year useful life of the FSFL.

B Purpose

This notice informs State and County Offices of FSFL procedure if an FSFL applicant requests to use asphalt flooring in structures to store corn, oats, wheat, barley, and grain sorghum harvested as other than whole grain.

Note: All FSFL structures storing whole grain **must** have concrete flooring.

C Contacts

If there are questions about this notice, State Offices shall contact DeAnn Allen, PSD by 1 of the following:

- e-mail at deann.allen@wdc.usda.gov
- telephone at 202-720-9889
- FAX at 202-690-1703.

Disposal Date	Distribution
September 1, 2011 10-19-10	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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2 Asphalt Flooring

A Asphalt Flooring for FSFL Structures With Commodities Harvested as Other Than Whole Grain

Documentation from a number of land-grant universities, in certain regions, has concluded that asphalt flooring:

- is acceptable for use in storage pads for agricultural commodities
- has proven to be even more resilient than concrete in bunker silos and storage pads
- is successful only if constructed properly.

FSFL applicants requesting to use asphalt flooring in structures to store corn, oats, wheat, barley, and grain sorghum harvested as other than whole grain, shall be:

- advised by the County Office that asphalt flooring must be constructed according to specific specifications in subparagraph B

Note: If not constructed according to the specific specifications, approval and/or FSFL disbursement is not authorized.

- informed that the STC or STC designated SED are the approval authority for FSFL's with asphalt flooring
- notified that additional security equal to the loan amount is required for all FSFL's with asphalt flooring used to store CCC Charter Act Commodities harvested as other than whole grain.

B Specifications for Asphalt Flooring

The following specifications must be followed for asphalt flooring for hay, renewable biomass structures and STC or STC designated SED approval of FSFL flooring for corn, oats, wheat, barley, and grain sorghum harvested as other than whole grain:

- 6- to 12-inch well-packed crushed gravel base with drainage both inside and outside the footing to prevent water from getting under the asphalt
- 4 to 6 inches of high-grade asphalt, including 3 to 5 inches of fine material and 1 inch of very fine material

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2 Asphalt Flooring (Continued)

B Specifications for Asphalt Flooring (Continued)

- compacted at least twice with a 20-ton roller:
 - first with a vibrating roller
 - second with a finishing roller to remove ripples
- sealed with an asphalt sealer.

Note: COC's or their designee will be responsible for monitoring construction to ensure that the asphalt flooring is constructed according to **all** the specifications in this subparagraph. STC will determine the number of field visits the county shall make to monitor construction.

C Required FSFL Spot Checks of Asphalt Flooring

County Offices are required to periodically conduct collateral checks of all outstanding FSFL's according to 1-FSFL, subparagraph 163 A.

To ensure that asphalt flooring is being properly maintained, County Offices must make a field visit and conduct a collateral check of all FSFL's using asphalt flooring:

- at least once every other year
- and complete CCC-295B to document the field visit.

Note: In addition, County Offices shall annually verify:

- structural and flood insurance
- multi-peril crop insurance.

3 Action

A STC Action

For FSFL's storing corn, oats, wheat, barley and grain sorghum harvested as other than whole grain, STC's shall:

- determine with the assistance of their land-grant university and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture if asphalt is a viable option instead of concrete in their State
- advise their County Offices that asphalt flooring is acceptable only if properly constructed
- approve on a case by case basis, CCC-185 requests for using asphalt flooring
- require additional security for FSFL's with asphalt flooring.

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3 Action (Continued)

B COC and County Office Action

For FSFL's storing corn, oats, wheat, barley, and grain sorghum harvested as other than whole grain, COC's and County Offices shall:

- inform FSFL applicants requesting to use asphalt flooring in their structures:
 - that STC approval, on a case by case basis is required
 - of construction specifications required for asphalt flooring according to subparagraph 2 B
 - of required additional security required for using asphalt flooring
- submit each CCC-185 to the STC for approval before construction.